

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: Akira MATSUMOTO and Masashi FUKUYAMA

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

For: OPTICAL FIBER ARRAY

Box Patent Application
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington DC 20231

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Janet M. Stevens
Janet M. Stevens

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination, Applicants wish to amend the subject application as follows:

In the Specification:

Page 7, between lines 9 and 10, please add the following paragraph.

The file of this patent contains at least one drawing or photograph executed in color. Copies of this patent with color drawing(s) or photograph(s) will be provided by the Patent and Trademark Office upon request and payment of the necessary fee.

In the Claims:

Please rewrite claims 3-6 as follows:

3. (Amended) An optical fiber array as claimed in claim 1, wherein the distance Y between the substrate and the cover plate is $L/4 \leq Y \leq L$.